

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 07252 081207Z

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ACTION CU-03

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O P 081115Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 730

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

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STATE FOR CU/EE; USIA FOR IEU; SOFIA FOR P&C/YALE RICHMOND

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJECT: CU/EE BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR FY 1977

REF: STATE 292973

IN ANTICIPATION OF RICHMOND VISIT HERE BEGINNING DECEMBER 11
TO DISCUSS NEW TWO-YEAR EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND 1977 BUDGET ALLOCATION,
EMBASSY REQUESTS CLARIFICATION OF FOLLOWING POINTS IN REFTEL:

1. MOST CRITICAL PROBLEM IS FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY FUNDS FOR
10-15 SHORT-TERM RESEARCH CANDIDATES NOMINATED BY ROMANIANS IN
SEPTEMBER. CONTRARY TO EMBASSY AND GOR UNDERSTANDING THAT THESE
GRANTS WOULD BE FUNDED FROM 1976 OR TQ ALLOCATION, DEPT IS
CHARGING THEM TO 1977 ALLOCATION APPARENTLY ON ASSUMPTION
THAT ROMANIANS WILL NOT NOMINATE ANOTHER SLATE OF RESEARCHERS
FOR 1977/78 IN FEBRUARY. BUT WE CAN ASSUME NOTHING ABOUT ROMANIAN
INTENTIONS OR PERFORMANCE UNTIL WE HAVE THEIR DRAFT PROPOSAL
FOR 1977/78 PROGRAM. AS STATE DEPT NOTES IN REFTEL, TOTAL
ALLOCATION FOR 1977 ACADEMIC PROGRAM IS ALREADY \$56,450 LESS THEN
FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF A REDUCED PROGRAM WOULD REQUIRE. THAT
LEAVES LITTLE FLEXIBILITY FOR ACCOMMODATING ALMOST \$50,000 EXTRA
FOR SEPTEMBER NOMINATIONS (ASSUMING 15 CANDIDATES ARE SUCCESSFULLY
PLACED BY CIES) IF GOR NOMINATES ANOTHER SLATE OF RESEARCHERS
IN FEBRUARY. SUCH EVENTUALITY WOULD PUT US IN EMBARRASSING
POSITION OF HAVING PRESSED ROMANIANS FOR MONTHS TO FILL 1976 QUOTA
AND THEN TELLING THEM WE DON'T HAVE FUNDS FOR THEIR CANDIDATES

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 07252 081207Z

AFTER ALL.

2. THE FIGURE OF \$22,450 FOR TEN SENIOR SCHOLARS FROM EACH SIDE (ARTICLE I-1C) APPEARS TO INCLUDE MONEY FOR TEN ROMANIAN NOMINEES ONLY, NONE FOR AMERICANS.
 3. NO FUNDS AT ALL ARE INCLUDED FOR AMSPECS, A CATEGORY FOR WHICH \$5,000 WAS BUDGETED IN 1976.
 4. IT WOULD SIMPLIFY EMBASSY'S TASK IMMEASURABLY IF DEPT WOULD PROVIDE ASAP BREAKDOWN ON FY 1976 AND TQ ACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND IN FUTURE PROVIDE AT LEAST SEMI-ANNUAL BUDGET STATUS REPORT. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ESTIMATED UNIT COSTS AND ACTUAL COSTS AS WELL AS CONFUSION OVER WHICH GRANTS HAVE BEEN CHARGED TO WHICH FISCAL YEAR MAKE EMBASSY'S BUDGET PLANNING DIFFICULT.
- BARNES

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